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Massachusetts Profiles

Fall River LMA

LABOR AREA RESEARCH PUBLICATION

REVISED 1980 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AVAILABLE

The revised annual average 1980 unemployment rate for the Fall River LMA was posted at 3.1 percent with a revised annual average of 5,898 persons unemployed during the year. The DES Research Department is in the process of revising the 1979 unemployment rate for the LMA which last year was revised to an annual average unemployment rate of 7.2 percent with an annual average of 5,528 persons unemployed during 1979.

JANUARY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE UP SHARPLY OVER THE MONTH

The preliminary January 1981 unemployment rate for the Fall River LMA registered at 9.0 percent, up by 2.5 percentage points over the revised December 1980 unemployment rate of 6.5 percent. The estimated number of unemployed persons in January was 6,670, an increase of 1,835 over the revised December 1980 figure of 4,835.

THE POSITIVE SIDE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Fall River's high unemployment makes it one of several Massachusetts communities immediately eligible for Defense Department contracts totalling $3.4 billion under a new program designed to assist distressed areas. Congresswoman Margaret M. Heckler (R.) recently announced that effective February 26, 1981, private firms doing business in areas classified as "labor surplus", where unemployment is 20 percent or more above the national average, will be eligible for federal contracts. The Congresswoman announced that there are 10 communities in the 10th Congressional District that are classified as "labor surplus", of which Fall River is one. Some of the commodities the defense department will be purchasing are textiles and clothing, electronics, industrial goods, medical, dental and ophthalmic goods.

This program is a responsible and effective method of creating jobs because it targets the Defense Department's spending power without increasing appropriations or establishing a new government program. It also has a built-in safeguard to preserve competitive bidding and to keep the Defense Department from excessive spending on contracts. But provided these conditions are met, businesses and communities prepared to compete aggressively for the contracts will begin to see defense procurement contracts flowing in their direction, according to Mrs. Heckler. Businesses in Fall River will have the opportunity to meet with representatives of the Defense Logistics Agencies who are expected to come to the district to assist manufacturers and businesses interested in the program.

ACUTE SHORTAGE OF NURSES-STATEWIDE

A recent survey by the Massachusetts Hospital Association found over 2,000 full-time nursing positions vacant in hospitals throughout the state. Dr. Joyce Passos, Dean of the Southeastern Massachusetts University college of Nursing has noted that local statistics correspond to national trends. There are unfilled nursing jobs in all hospitals in the Fall River-New Bedford area with the exception of New Bedford's Union Hospital. The shortage has hit where it hurts the most, the staff nurses on regular duty in general hospitals. Lorraine Davol, R.N., Charlton's Assistant Director of Nursing, states that the hospital presently has openings for 26 registered nurses. Last summer, the hospital had to close down 15 beds at the Union site for 2½ months and 10 months at Truesdale during the vacation period to make up for staffing shortages.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

According to the Employment Service Automatic Reporting System (ESARS) as of January 31, 1981, the occupations which had the greatest ratio of applicants to unfilled job openings in January were: administrative clerks, sales clerks, nurse's aides, janitors, alteration tailors, construction workers, building maintenance repairers, material handlers, and industrial hand packagers.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
LABOR FORCE	74,000	74,100	72,400
Employment	67,300	69,300	65,700
Unemployment	6,700	4,800	6,700
Unemployment Rate 3/	9.0	6.5	9.2
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	920	1,567	752
Continued Weeks Claimed	3,134	2,389	3,075

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,169	2,251	390	67	2,316
New Applicants (This Month)	784	336	38	16	201

1 Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1	JAN 1981
Unfilled Openings 2	314
Openings Received	222

1 At End of Period 2 Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS *	EMPLOYMENT (000's) JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL			
Nonmanufacturing - Total			
Construction			
Trans. & public utilities			
Wholesale & retail trade			
Finance, ins. & real estate			
Services & mining			
Government			

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS *	EMPLOYMENT (000's) JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
Manufacturing - Total			
Durable Goods - Total			
Nondurable Goods Total			
Textile Mill Products			
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS *	JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
Average Weekly Earnings			
Average Weekly Hours			
Average Hourly Earnings			

* Figures will appear in the December issue of "Employment Review" due to Annual Benchmark Revisions.

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Dighton, Fall River, Somerset, Swansea, Westport, Little Compton, & Tiverton, Rhode Island.

FALL RIVER LMA

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Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

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MASS MA20.39: Fall River/981-2

Massachusetts Profiles

Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT DECLINES SLIGHTLY IN FEBRUARY

The February unemployment rate for the Fall River LMA dropped by two tenths of a percentage point over the month going from 9.0 percent in January to 8.8 percent in February. This was principally due to a rise in total employment of 1,100 jobs as employment rose from 67,300 in January to 68,400 in February. Nonagricultural employment rose by 400 jobs over the month from 53,500 to 53,900. The number of jobless remained virtually unchanged over the month decreasing from 6,700 in January to 6,600 in February.

PHALO CORPORATION BREAKS GROUND IN FALL RIVER

In a major new industrial development for the city of Fall River, Dr. David Bakalar, president of the Transitron Electronic Corp., the parent of which Phalo Corp. is a subsidiary, recently participated in ground-breaking ceremonies at the city's new Industrial Park for an estimated $9 million plant. The first phase of the construction and equipment will cost an estimated $4.2 million and the second portion another $5 million. The 73,000 square foot plant will be under construction in April of this year and the company hopes production will begin in October. Estimated employment at the new plant is 225 people in its' first stage. Almost all employees of Phalo are expected to be Fall River area residents.

Phalo is a high technology firm with headquarters in Shrewsbury and represents the first major industry to construct a new building in Fall River within two years. Phalo is a leader in thermo-plastic control cables for use in the computer and tele-communications industry. Products range from audio and communications cable to highly specialized computer and telemetry cable. The company services such computer industry giants as Digital, IBM and RCA. Congresswoman Margaret M. Heckler (R). participated in the ceremonies and said that the high technology industry is Fall River's great future potential.

AETNA TO BUILD $8 MILLION OFFICE COMPLEX

In another very positive step in Fall River's economic development, Aetna Life and Casualty officials recently announced that they will build a four-story office complex in downtown Fall River. The project is expected to begin within three months and be completed in the third quarter of 1982. The building will contain 114,000 square feet of space and the company is presently planning to utilize all of the space. Aetna chose the prime downtown location for amalgamation of its' five present offices in Fall River which house 800 employees. Although the building is designed to permit expansion for an additional 200 employees when needs demand, there are no plans to do that at this time. There are also designs allowing for additional structures. Aetna has been located in Fall River for 13 years and its' 1981 payroll is estimated at $8.6 million.

NEW DEFENSE SPENDING PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

The Research Department of the Division of Employment Security has just released (January 1981) a new publication entitled: Defense Spending and Massachusetts Employment, 1969-1979. This report is a study of defense spending and employment in Massachusetts during an eleven year period, 1969-1979. Included in this report are both national and state data on defense spending and those industries which benefited from defense procurement. Detailed information on the Boston Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA), the Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA, and the Lowell Labor Market Area (LMA) is included because these areas received the highest allocation of defense dollars in Massachusetts over the time span involved. In FY 1979, the Fall River LMA received a mere 0.1 percent of Massachusetts Military Prime Contracts awarded which amounted to $1,480,000.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
LABOR FORCE	75,200	74,000	71,700
Employment	68,400	67,300	65,400
Unemployment	6,600	6,700	6,300
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.8	9.0	8.8
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	991	920	1,100
Continued Weeks Claimed	3,043	3,134	3,323

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,499	2,382	410	63	2,459
New Applicants (This Month)	945	379	96	10	282

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	FEB 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	212
Openings Received	130

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.6	53.5	53.9
Nonmanufacturing - Total	33.7	33.7	33.3
Construction	1.0	1.1	1.1
Trans. & public utilities	1.9	1.9	1.9
Wholesale & retail trade	11.0	11.0	10.9
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.7	2.7	2.7
Services & mining	9.3	9.3	8.9
Government	7.8	7.7	7.8

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
Manufacturing - Total	19.9	19.8	20.6
Durable Goods - Total	3.4	3.4	3.5
Nondurable Goods Total	16.5	16.4	17.1
Textile Mill Products	4.4	4.4	4.8
Other nondurable goods	12.1	12.0	12.3

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	INA	INA
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	INA
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Dighton, Fall River, Somerset, Swansea, Westport, Little Compton, & Tiverton, Rhode Island.

FALL RIVER LMA

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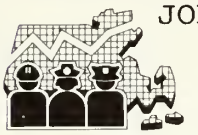
Massachusetts Profiles

Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE HOLDS STEADY

The March unemployment rate for the Fall River LMA held steady at 8.8 percent compared to February. Although unemployment declined slightly over the month by 100 persons going from 6,600 to 6,500, nonagricultural employment also declined over the month by 200 jobs going from 53,600 to 53,400 thus tending to offset the slight improvement in the number of jobless posted for March. A key indicator to look at for possible trends in the economy and the unemployment rate is the number of persons filing initial unemployment claims. More than 2,500 persons filed initial claims in March compared to a little more than 3,000 in February, an over the month decrease of 469 or 15.5 percent.

PASS PROGRAM

To improve potential government contract and sub-contract opportunities for small businesses, the Small Business Administration developed its' Procurement Automated Source System (PASS). Using the latest computer technology, PASS is designed to boost the number of government contracts awarded to small firms. PASS permits small firms to register their capabilities and have them matched with the needs of the procuring agencies. Small businesses which manufacture textiles, clothing, electronics, production equipment, medical, dental, and ophthalmic goods and which are in "labor surplus areas" may wish to register with PASS in order to increase the probability of receiving defense procurement contracts. The city of Fall River and Westport are both currently classified as labor surplus areas.

DEFENSE SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

The Department of Defense has announced establishment of a Defense Small Business Advanced Technology Program to capitalize on the historic creative potential of small high technology firms.

This program is designed to promote innovative solutions to scientific and technical problems facing the defense community by increasing the participation of small high technology firms in the Department's research and development initiatives. Approximately 20 research and development project areas of particular interest to the Army, Navy, Air Force and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), will be identified for exploration under a three-phase program. Details of the new program are available from Hal C. Fischer, Director of Small Business and Economic Utilization Policy, Room 2-A 340 at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C., 20301.

TIMBACC REALTY BOND CONFIRMED

A $1.4 million Industrial Development Revenue Bond allowing Timbacc Realty to purchase the Stafford Mills and relocate its' outerwear manufacturing facilities there has been confirmed by the Fall River Industrial Finance Development Authority. Timbacc, an arm of Rothchild and Co., operates River Falls Manufacturing Corp., presently located in the Northern Warehouse on Quarry Street. River Falls employs 120 workers and would add 150 new employees at the new site. The revenue bond was approved by both the Mayor and the City Council in December of last year and now goes to the Massachusetts Industrial Finance Authority for final approval which is usually routinely given after the local granting of the request.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
LABOR FORCE	74,000	75,200	71,300
Employment	67,500	68,400	66,000
Unemployment	6,500	6,600	5,300
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.8	8.8	7.4
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	721	991	526
Continued Weeks Claimed	2,937	3,043	2,960

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,585	2,437	409	66	2,493
New Applicants (This Month)	891	398	56	17	287

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	MAR 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	128
Openings Received	186

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.4	53.6	54.3
Nonmanufacturing - Total	33.9	33.7	33.7
Construction	1.0	1.0	1.1
Trans. & public utilities	1.8	1.9	1.9
Wholesale & retail trade	11.1	11.0	11.0
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.8	2.7	2.7
Services & mining	9.4	9.3	9.0
Government	7.8	7.8	8.0

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
Manufacturing - Total	19.5	19.9	20.6
Durable Goods - Total	3.4	3.4	3.5
Nondurable Goods Total	16.1	16.5	17.1
Textile Mill Products	4.4	4.4	4.8
Other nondurable goods	11.7	12.1	12.3

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$206.22	$207.26	$189.86
Average Weekly Hours	37.7	38.1	37.3
Average Hourly Earnings	$5.47	$5.44	$5.22

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

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Massachusetts Profiles

Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

JOBLESS DECLINE IN APRIL

The April unemployment rate of 7.1 percent for the Fall River LMA declined a substantial 1.7 percentage points from the March rate of 8.8 percent. The April 1980 rate was 7.0 percent. The number of unemployed dropped by 1,400 over the month, a 21.5 percent decrease from the 6,500 jobless figure posted in March. Although initial claims filed during the reference week of April increased slightly, the number of continued weeks claimed dropped by a hefty 753 or slightly more than 25 percent, down from the approximate 2,900 persons filing continued weeks unemployment claims in March. Of the 750 persons who ceased filing continued unemployment claims, 140 were people who had exhausted their benefits. The remainder can be presumed to have returned to active employment.

BRAYTON POINT BEGINS COAL USE

New England Electric System's Brayton Point station in Somerset recently commenced coal burning. Guy W. Nichols, chairman of the New England Electric System, said the Brayton Point station will go from being 80 percent dependent on oil in 1979 to less than 30 percent by the end of this year when the second and third units have been converted to burn coal. Chairman Nichols also announced that by 1985, the utility expects to be less than 10 percent reliant on oil. By then, the company expects that its energy mix will be 58 percent coal with various percentages attributed to nuclear and hydro-power, as well as domestic and foreign oil. One of the four units cannot be converted to coal burning. Company officials expect to conserve roughly 12 million barrels of oil per year with a substantial savings to customers as a result of this conversion. An estimated three million tons of coal per year, or 8,000 tons of coal per day, will be used when all three units are burning coal on a permanent basis at the Somerset station.

The project will cost $180 million but the utility will recover its capital outlay and return the savings to its customers. The net savings from the Somerset plant, which is the largest electric generating facility in New England, will be passed on to customers of the Massachusetts, Narragansett, Rhode Island and Granite State Electric Companies.

A company spokesman observed that for the typical customer using 500 kilowatt hours of electricity per month, this will mean a saving of approximately $60 per year.

The conversion to coal burning at the Somerset station is the culmination of an agreement signed in August 1978 between the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (DEQE) and New England Power on state regulations governing coal conversion. In May 1979, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) gave final approval to plans to burn coal on a permanent basis at Brayton Point.

NET HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

According to the Employment Service Automatic Reporting System (ESARS), as of April 30, 1981, the occupations with the highest net demand at that time were secretaries, typists, class A machinists, tool and die makers, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and power sewing machine operators. These are all occupations which require a high level of skill and the Job Matching Service does not have applicants with the necessary prerequisites to fill the job openings currently existing for these particular occupations.

As of April 30, 1981, there were 4,475 persons in the active file of the Fall River Labor Market area ESARS, of whom 2,472 were female.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
LABOR FORCE	71,700	74,000	71,400
Employment	66,600	67,500	66,400
Unemployment	5,100	6,500	5,000
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.1	8.8	7.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	746	721	916
Continued Weeks Claimed	2,184	2,937	2,282

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,475	2,472	409	67	2,478
New Applicants (This Month)	660	318	57	6	220

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	APR 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	148
Openings Received	202

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.9	53.4	54.7
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.1	33.9	34.2
Construction	1.2	1.0	1.4
Trans. & public utilities	1.8	1.8	2.0
Wholesale & retail trade	11.2	11.1	11.1
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.8	2.8	2.7
Services & mining	9.3	9.4	9.3
Government	7.8	7.8	7.7

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
Manufacturing - Total	19.8	19.5	20.5
Durable Goods - Total	3.4	3.4	3.5
Nondurable Goods Total	16.4	16.1	17.0
Textile Mill Products	4.6	4.4	4.9
Other nondurable goods	11.8	11.7	12.1

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$216.01	$206.22	$197.22
Average Weekly Hours	38.3	37.7	38.0
Average Hourly Earnings	$5.64	$5.47	$5.19

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

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AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Dighton, Fall River, Somerset, Swansea, Westport, Little Compton, & Tiverton, Rhode Island.

FALL RIVER LMA

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Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

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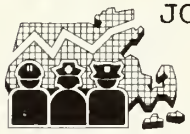
Massachusetts Profiles

Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



FALL RIVER DESIGNATED LABOR SURPLUS AREA

The U.S. Department of Labor has recently designated 1,058 areas, nation-wide, as labor surplus areas where employers are eligible for preference in obtaining Federal contracts. The classifications are effective for the period June 1, 1981 through May 31, 1982. Fall River is one of 46 Massachusetts cities and towns so designated. The aim is to give preferential treatment in securing Federal procurement dollars into areas where people are in severe economic need - where unemployment is highest. The annual classifications are based on an average of each area's unemployment rate for the two previous calendar years. (January 1979 through December 1980 is the period used for the current listing.) By using this reference period, it is possible to target Federal procurement contracts into areas experiencing high structural unemployment, that is, unemployment relatively long-term in nature and due primarily to workers' lack of skills rather than to cyclical factors. To be included in the annual listing, an area must have had an unemployment rate during the two-year reference period that was 20 percent above the national average unemployment rate for the same period.

THE DLA'S LABOR SURPLUS PROGRAM

This program directs the Defense Department's supply branch - the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to purchase some of the goods and services it needs from private-sector suppliers located in labor surplus areas. Until the end of fiscal 1981 (September 30, 1981), a large portion (up to $3.4 billion) of DLA's purchasing budget will be subject to special purchase procedures which allow a firm located in a surplus area to receive a contract even if it does not submit the lowest bid. Congress has directed the Pentagon to pay up to 5 percent more for services and supplies provided to DLA by firms which agree to complete at least 51 percent of the contract in an economically distressed area. Small businesses will be the first to benefit from this preference program. Defense procurement officials have been instructed to make every possible attempt to award all or a part of a contract to small firms. Before a cost comparison of the small business bids is made, 5 percent of the contract cost is added to the bids submitted by those firms not located in a labor surplus area. If it is impossible to include small firms in the award, the contract will be given to the lowest bidding large firms again after a 5 percent differential is added to the bid of those firms located outside a labor surplus area.

DOING BUSINESS WITH DLA

The Small Business and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Specialist at each DLA supply center (list follows) is a firm's best source of additional information on DLA's test labor surplus area program. These officials are there to assist businesses in their efforts to sell to DLA.

Elizabeth D. Parsons
Small Business Specialist
Defense Construction Supply Center
3990 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Telephone: (614) 236-3541

Bob Castle
Small Business Specialist
Defense Electronics Supply Center
1507 Wilmington Pike
Dayton, Ohio 45401
Telephone: (513) 296-5231

Shirley Downes
Small Business Specialist
Defense Fuel Supply Center
Cameron Station, Building 8
5010 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: (703) 274-7428

Richard D. Henermann
Small Business Specialist
Defense General Supply Ctr.
Bellwood, Petersburg Pike
Richmond, Virginia 23297
Telephone: (804) 275-3690 or 3617

Thomas Connors
Small Business Specialist
Defense Industrial Supply Center
100 Robbins Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19111
Telephone: (215) 697-2747

Richard Husser
Small Business Specialist
Defense Personnel Support Center
2800 South 20th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19101
Telephone: (215) 952-2321

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
LABOR FORCE	72,200	71,700	73,100
Employment	66,700	66,600	66,500
Unemployment	5,500	5,100	6,600
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.6	7.1	9.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	639	746	1,135
Continued Weeks Claimed	2,023	2,184	2,711

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,545	2,517	416	66	2,487
New Applicants (This Month)	838	374	71	13	260

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	MAY 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	241
Openings Received	352

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	54.2	53.9	54.8
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.1	34.1	34.3
Construction	1.3	1.2	1.5
Trans. & public utilities	1.9	1.8	2.0
Wholesale & retail trade	11.4	11.2	11.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.8	2.8	2.7
Services & mining	9.3	9.3	9.3
Government	7.4	7.8	7.6

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	APR 1981	MAY 1981	APR 1980
Manufacturing - Total	20.1	19.8	20.5
Durable Goods - Total	3.5	3.4	3.6
Nondurable Goods Total	16.6	16.4	16.9
Textile Mill Products	4.6	4.6	4.7
Other nondurable goods	12.0	11.8	12.2

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$222.61	$216.01	$187.54
Average Weekly Hours	39.4	38.3	36.7
Average Hourly Earnings	$5.65	$5.64	$5.11

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

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Massachusetts Profiles

Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

MONTHLY UNEMPLOYMENT EDGES UPWARD

The June 1981 preliminary rate for the Fall River LMA was 8.1 percent, a .5 percentage point increase over the 7.6 percent rate posted in May 1981. The over-the-month increase in the unemployment rate is largely seasonal in nature and attributable to high-school and college graduates seeking new employment as well as to high-school and college continuing students seeking summer employment.

Despite the over-the-month unemployment rate increase, the rate for June 1981 was 1.2 percentage points lower than the revised 9.3 percent rate posted for June 1980. Additionally, and more significantly, the average unemployment rate for the first half of 1981 was .3 percentage points lower at 8.2 percent than was the average unemployment rate for the first half of 1980 at 8.5 percent.

FALL RIVER FIRM RECEIVES MIFA BOND

Thirty-two firms across the state recently received approval for low interest, tax-exempt bonds from the Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency. A $480,000 bond was awarded to the Robbins Manufacturing Company, a Fall River manufacturer of screws and bolts. The firm will purchase new industrial machinery and expects to create half a dozen new jobs as a direct result of the bond approval.

MIFA is an independent public agency, designed to stimulate economic growth in the Commonwealth. It offers incentive programs such as low interest bonds, pollution control financing, and loan guarantees. Its commercial program is designed specifically to help rebuild downtown areas. Cities such as Fall River, and industrial firms around the state continue to show how responsible use of industrial revenue bonds has helped to bring back and strengthen the state's economy.

FALL RIVER TO BECOME CRUISE SHIP PORT

Fall River will become a cruise ship port generating thousands of dollars for the city's economy as the Bahama Cruise Line's SS Veracruz will begin two-week, round trips to New York and into Canada, originating from Fall River this summer. This dramatically changes what was announced last March simply as a port-of-call visit nine times during the summer by the 700-passenger ship. This new tourist service will mean more revenue and processing of passengers in Fall River, including baggage handling, porter hiring, customs inspection, passenger car traffic dockside, and long term parking. It will also mean more problems, and disruption of routine pier activity the days the ship will be in the Fall River port.

According to an advertisement being readied for the venture, the SS Veracruz will make the special departures from here June 18, July 2, and 16, and other dates to be announced. Of Panamanian registry, the 490-foot vessel of the Bahama line will leave Fall River and make stops in New York, and cruise to Sidney, Nova Scotia; Gaspe; Saguenay Fjord; Quebec; Montreal; and Halifax, Nova Scotia before returning to Fall River. The two week trips originating in Fall River will be interpersed with the docking in Fall River of the one week trips from Canada. Each of those 12-hour stopovers will provide land excursions and side trips to Newport, New Bedford, Plymouth, and Boston. The ship's berth at State Pier in Fall River alongside a major tourist attraction, namely the Battleship Massachusetts, the Cove Fleet, and the Marine Museum, was the prime factor in selecting Fall River initially, according to Julio del Valle, president of the Bahama Cruise Line. This promises to be a significant new waterfront industry, according to William J. Torpey, general manager of the Fall River State Pier.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
LABOR FORCE	73,300	72,200	73,100
Employment	67,400	66,700	66,300
Unemployment	5,900	5,500	6,800
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.0	7.6	9.3
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	677	639	704
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,948	2,023	2,680

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,601	2,615	405	65	2,404
New Applicants (This Month)	774	385	71	13	157

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	JUNE '81
Unfilled Openings 2/	837
Openings Received	1,079

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	54.1	54.2	55.1
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.0	34.1	34.5
Construction	1.4	1.3	1.5
Trans. & public utilities	1.9	1.9	2.0
Wholesale & retail trade	11.1	11.4	11.1
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.9	2.8	2.8
Services & mining	9.5	9.3	9.5
Government	7.2	7.4	7.6

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
Manufacturing - Total	20.1	20.1	20.6
Durable Goods - Total	3.5	3.5	3.5
Nondurable Goods Total	16.6	16.6	17.1
Textile Mill Products	4.6	4.6	4.6
Other nondurable goods	12.0	12.0	12.5

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
Average Weekly Earnings	$214.45	$222.61	$188.78
Average Weekly Hours	38.5	39.4	36.8
Average Hourly Earnings	$5.57	$5.65	$5.13

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

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Massachusetts Profiles

Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT EDGES UPWARD

The July unemployment rate for the Fall River Labor Market Area rose to 8.9 percent, .8 of a percentage point higher than the 8.1 percent rate posted in June. In July, there were an estimated 6,600 unemployed persons in the LMA compared to 5,900 in June, an over-the-month increase of 700. This increase is largely accounted for by persons applying for unemployment insurance benefits because they were not entitled to vacation pay during vacation plant shutdowns. Additionally, the ranks of the unemployed were further swelled by persons who were victims of the impact of Proposition 2½.

CITY SEEKS NEW TAX RATE OF $138.20

Mayor Viveiros recently announced that Fall River is seeking state approval of a new tax rate of $138.20, a figure that is expected to save the average homeowner about $200 on this year's tax bill. According to the requirements of Proposition 2½, the new rate must be at least 15 percent less than the fiscal 1981 rate of $164 per $1,000 valuation. Pointing out that the city's tax rate has not been below $140 since before 1970, Mayor Viveiros said: "We're pleased to announce that with the cooperation of the City Council, School Committee, municipal unions and department heads, we have successfully met the mandates of Proposition 2½ for tax rate reduction. The people of Fall River should be proud of the way our city has faced the challenge of Proposition 2½ and been victorious over it". The Mayor cited good financial planning, an extremely tight budget, improvements in city management, help of the local legislative delegation in returning local aid to Fall River, aggressive pursuit of all available state and federal funds, cooperation between management and labor and partnership among elected officials as the major factors in the first-year demands of 2½. Mayor Viveiros said he believes Fall River is one of the first cities in the state to approach Boston for tax rate approval. Early setting of the rate and consequent mailing of property tax bills will help insure a cash flow for the city, which will mean little or no short-term borrowing this fall.

MIFA TO POOL NEW BONDS

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA), Boston, has initiated a program for placing industrial revenue bonds in the public market that will make Massachusetts the first state in the nation to develop this "secondary market" concept. MIFA Executive Director Robert E. Patterson said he expects an intitial pool of bonds totalling approximately $25 million to be sold publicly by mid-October. Though this concept has been much discussed nationally, Massachusetts would be the first state to bring a pool of small issue industrial revenue bonds to the public market without any guarantee from the state. The Pooled Marketing Program is designed to continue the availability of industrial revenue bonds to the smaller, nonrated companies that cannot finance new productive facilities at today's interest rates.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

According to the Employment Service Automated Reporting System (ESARS) as of July 31, 1981, the occupations which had the greatest ratio of applicants to unfilled job openings in July were: general clerks, administrative clerks, nurse's aides, construction workers, hand packagers, and material handlers.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
LABOR FORCE	74,200	73,300	74,600
Employment	67,600	67,400	67,300
Unemployment	6,600	5,900	7,300
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.9	8.1	9.7
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	797	677	1,579
Continued Weeks Claimed	2,856	1,948	3,573

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,725	2,746	380	74	2,503
New Applicants (This Month)	1,479	724	59	25	921

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	JULY '81
Unfilled Openings 2/	306
Openings Received	315

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	52.9	54.1	53.6
Nonmanufacturing - Total	33.9	34.0	34.7
Construction	1.4	1.4	1.6
Trans. & public utilities	1.8	1.9	1.9
Wholesale & retail trade	11.3	11.1	11.3
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.8	2.9	2.7
Services & mining	9.4	9.5	9.4
Government	7.2	7.2	7.8

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
Manufacturing - Total	19.0	20.1	18.9
Durable Goods - Total	3.5	3.5	3.5
Nondurable Goods Total	15.5	16.6	15.4
Textile Mill Products	4.3	4.6	4.1
Other nondurable goods	11.2	12.0	11.3

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
Average Weekly Earnings	$209.06	$214.45	$186.79
Average Weekly Hours	38.5	38.5	36.2
Average Hourly Earnings	$5.43	$5.57	$5.16

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

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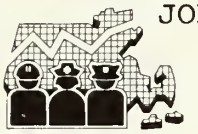
JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



JOBLESS DECLINES IN AUGUST

The August unemployment rate for the Fall River Labor Market Area dropped by 0.7 of a percentage point to 8.2 percent from the 8.9 percent unemployed posted for July. The number of unemployed dropped by 400 over-the-month going from 6,600 to 6,200. The non-seasonally adjusted rate for August 1981 was 7.2 percent both in the state and the nation.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS PLUMMET

Total new insurance claims dropped by 1,158 over-the-month going from 4,335 initial unemployment claims filed in July to 3,177 in August, a 27 percent over-the-month decrease. Continued weeks of unemployment claimed for the August reference week dropped by 826 going from 2,856 in July to 2,030 in August, an over-the-month decrease of 29 percent. The principal reason for the decreases in claims activity in August of this year is largely accounted for by the recall of employees who were idled during the annual, plant-wide vacation shut-downs which typically occur in July.

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Labor Market Information (LMI) describes the dynamics of employment opportunities and the workforce. It is obtained by measuring and evaluating the various factors that influence the supply and demand for workers. It is used by public and private sector employers, job seekers, students, planners, counselors and placement specialists. LMI is used for economic analyses, policy development, planning education and training programs, and for research in labor market behavior and related topics. It is also used in the allocations of program funds and in determining eligibility for preference in federal procurement contracts.

As one of the principal data-gathering agencies in the field of labor economics, the Division of Employment Security collects, processes, analyzes and disseminates data relating to employment, unemployment, wages and hours.

"Labor Market Information, What's Available for Massachusetts" is a new guide which describes the major programs and publications of the Division of Employment Security. All publications listed in this report may be obtained free of charge.

Copies of "Labor Market Information, What's Available for Massachusetts" may be obtained by contacting the Labor Area Research Department, C. F. Hurley Building, Government Center, Boston, Massachusetts 02114.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

According to the Employment Service Automated Reporting System (ESARS), as of August 31, 1981, there were 4,311 active applicants in the Fall River LMA (Job Matching Service) vying for 178 unfilled job openings, a ratio of 24.2 applicants per job opening. This ratio compares with a 9.6 ratio for August 1980. Clearly, the labor market economy has deteriorated in the Fall River LMA over the year from the job applicant's point of view. The following is a list of occupations where there are at least 10 applicants for every job opening in the Fall River LMA as of August 31, 1981: secondary school teachers, elementary school teachers, retail store managers, social service caseworkers, secretaries, clerk typists, file clerks, general clerks, full charge bookkeepers, cashiers, administrative clerks, telephone operators, receptionists, teacher's aides, sales clerks, lunchroom counter attendants, cooks, kitchen helpers, cosmetologists, nurse's aides, janitors, auto mechanics, garment assemblers, alteration tailors, construction painters, construction carpenters, building maintenance repairers, heavy truck drivers, bus drivers, hand packagers, and material handlers.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Aug. 1981	July 1981	Aug. 1980
LABOR FORCE	76,200	74,200	75,100
Employment	70,000	67,600	69,000
Unemployment	6,200	6,600	6,100
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.2	8.9	8.1
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	596	797	668
Continued Weeks Claimed	2,030	2,856	2,689

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,311	2,471	351	69	2,324
New Applicants (This Month)	776	408	52	9	246

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Aug. 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	178
Openings Received	353

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Aug. 1981	July 1981	Aug. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	54.7	52.9	55.0
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.3	33.9	35.1
Construction	1.5	1.4	1.6
Trans. & public utilities	1.9	1.8	1.9
Wholesale & retail trade	11.6	11.3	11.5
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.8	2.8	2.8
Services & mining	9.3	9.4	9.5
Government	7.2	7.2	7.8

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Aug. 1981	July 1981	Aug. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	20.4	19.0	19.9
Durable Goods - Total	3.6	3.5	3.3
Nondurable Goods Total	16.8	15.5	16.6
Textile Mill Products	4.6	4.3	4.2
Other nondurable goods	12.2	11.2	12.4

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Aug. 1981	July 1981	Aug. 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$215.04	$209.06	$187.98
Average Weekly Hours	38.4	38.5	36.5
Average Hourly Earnings	$5.60	$5.43	$5.15

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Dighton, Fall River, Somerset, Swansea, Westport, Little Compton, & Tiverton, Rhode Island.

FALL RIVER LMA

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Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

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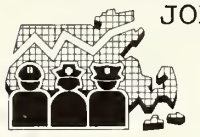
Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



JOBLESS EDGES DOWNWARD

The September unemployment rate for the Fall River Labor Market Area dropped slightly over the month to 7.9 percent, 0.3 of a percentage point lower than the 8.2 percent rate posted in August. An estimated 5,300 persons were unemployed in September. The principal reason for the unemployment decline was seasonally accounted for by high school and college age students returning to school.

EG&G ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP

EG&G Synfuels, Inc. recently announced that Brooklyn Union Gas Co. of New York will become its partner, committing $1 million to studying the feasibility of a $3.3 billion coal gasification plant in Fall River. The total estimated cost of the feasibility study is $12 million. If studies prove positive, the New York firm, EG&G's first partner since Texaco chose not to exercise its partnership option last July, would be able to offer energy supplies to the estimated four million people it serves from production of the plant in Fall River. EG&G is undertaking an in-depth study to determine the economic, technological, and environmental feasibility of locating a major coal gasification plant on a 4,300 acre Fall River site to be called the New England Energy Park. Brooklyn Gas has customers in a 187 square mile sector that includes Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island, New York. It would purchase gas on a displacement basis from a common distribution pipeline which EG&G would pump into although the gas pumped in by EG&G might not necessarily be the same as that withdrawn by the gas firm. An executive spokesman for Brooklyn Union Gas Co. also indicated that his firm may be interested in buying some or all of the methanol the plant here would produce as a byproduct of the gasification process. Methanol is useful as a chemical feedstock or as a motor vehicle fuel that can be further processed to gasoline or other organic liquids.

EG&G officials are hoping that the U.S. Synthetic Fuels Corp. will provide a $2.3 billion loan guarantee to encourage private investors to join in the massive project. It would be the first coal-to-gas synfuels facility designed and constructed on such a large scale within the United States. The Fall River plant would gasify approximately 10,000 tons of Appalachian area coal per day. A move is reportedly underway on the Washington legislative level to have EG&G classified as an energy cogenerator. In essence, such a classification would thin out a number of regulatory controls on the total project and enhance its feasibility to attract private investments. Brooklyn Gas' financial commitment is contingent upon EG&G's obtaining other firm commitments for the prolonged study. The development schedule for the plant includes design procurement following feasibility studies due to end sometime next year. Plant construction with energy production is expected to occur in 1987.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

According to the Employment Service Automated Reporting System (ESARS), as of September 30, 1981, there were 4,131 active applicants in the Fall River LMA (Job Matching Service) vying for 77 unfilled job openings, a ratio of 53.6 applicants per job opening. At 77, this number of unfilled job openings is a record low for the year. The extremely high applicant to unfilled job opening ratio confirms a further erosion of the job market in the Fall River LMA; the comparable ratio for August was 24.2

The following is a list of occupations where there are at least 25 applicants for every job opening in the Fall River LMA as of September 30, 1981; elementary school teachers, retail store managers, secretaries, general clerks, cashiers, administrative clerks, teacher's aides, sales clerks, lunchroom counter attendants, janitors, alteration tailors and sewing machine operators.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR Sept. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sept. 1980
LABOR FORCE	73,500	76,200	73,600
Employment	67,700	70,000	67,900
Unemployment	5,800	6,200	5,700
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.9	8.2	7.8
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	634	596	559
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,860	2,030	2,028

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,131	2,385	334	72	2,199
New Applicants (This Month)	620	306	63	112	195

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Sept. 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	77
Openings Received	182

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) Sep. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sep. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	54.4	54.7	54.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.0	34.3	34.7
Construction	1.5	1.5	1.6
Trans. & public utilities	1.9	1.9	1.9
Wholesale & retail trade	11.6	11.6	11.5
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.8	2.8	2.7
Services & mining	9.4	9.3	9.6
Government	6.8	7.2	7.4

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) Sep. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sep. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	20.4	20.4	19.8
Durable Goods - Total	3.6	3.6	3.4
Nondurable Goods Total	16.8	16.8	16.4
Textile Mill Products	4.6	4.6	4.4
Other nondurable goods	12.2	12.2	12.0

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Sep. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sep. 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$213.53	$215.04	$187.04
Average Weekly Hours	37.2	38.4	35.9
Average Hourly Earnings	$5.74	$5.60	$5.21

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Dighton, Fall River, Somerset, Swansea, Westport, Little Compton, & Tiverton, Rhode Island.

FALL RIVER LMA

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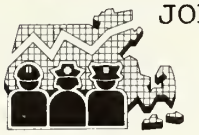
Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



ENERGY CONVERSION UNIT DUE NOVEMBER 15th

New England Electric officials are tentatively predicting that the conversion of the third generating unit from oil to coal at its Somerset station will be finished by November 15, marking the completion of the largest voluntary coal conversion in the six state region. Tiverton and Little Compton customers of the Narragansett Electric Company will realize new savings to go along with the money already saved on their fuel adjustment charge because of the coal conversion at Brayton Point. Most of the Fall River area, however, will not reap a savings on electric bills because of the conversion. The Greater Fall River area is predominantly served by the Eastern Edison Co. which does not directly buy its' electricity from New England Electric.

Susan B. Whittaker, public information manager of New England Electric, recently reported that the updated timetable is for the third generating unit - easily the largest of the three converted generators - to come on line by the end of November, or as close to November 15 as possible. Savings on the monthly electric bills will be realized by c[illegible]mers of Massachusetts Electric which serves the cen[illegible] and western sections of the state as well as the North Shore; Granite State Electric, a utility that serves a small portion of New Hampshire; and the Narragansett Electric Co. in Rhode Island. Somerset is the most ecviable community of all in the Greater Fall River area because taxes on New England Electric's property which are paid to the Town of Somerset are expected to increase substantially due to the installation of the new energy conversion equipment at Brayton Point. The Fall River area will receive tax benefits but little of the reductions in the fuel adjustment charges the exception being customers served by Narragansett Electric. New England Electric also pays taxes to communities, other than just Somerset, for the utility's power lines which cross several towns.

FALL RIVER OFFICE OF TOURISM CREATED

Mayor Viveiros recently announced the erection of an Office of Tourism covering all aspects of tourism in Fall River. The mayor said his office recently received permission to operate a tourism facility with federal funds. The mayor also indicated that the tourism office would be a priority of his administration. One of the first things that must be done before the tourism office can be realized is the completion of a feasibility study that is reviewing ways to link the downtown and waterfront areas. The feasibility study concerns getting people from one section to the other.

In a related development, operators of the cruise ship SS Veracruz recently announced that they will retain Fall River as one of their regular ports-of-call next year and plan to add New Bedford to the New England-Canadian summer cruise schedule. The announcement was enthusiastically greeted by officials of both southeastern Massachusetts cities who saw it as a boost to the area's tourism industry. Fall River officials estimated that well over $200,000 was spent in the Greater Fall River-New Bedford area during 1981 by the 6,250 passengers and crew members who visited the area during the summer and early fall months.

PRESS RESEASES

We would appreciate being added to companies' mailing lists for press releases that would have any bearing on the number of Massachusetts workers; for example, mass recruitment, plant expansion, plant consolidation, and layoffs. Address such releases to the address on the reverse side of this profile.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Oct. 1981	Sep. 1981	Oct. 1980
LABOR FORCE	76,600	73,500	74,600
Employment	69,600	67,700	69,000
Unemployment	7,000	5,800	5,600
Unemployment Rate 3/	9.2	7.9	7.5
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	879	634	687
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,922	1,860	1,848

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
[illegible]ve Applicants	Information Not Available				
New Applicants (This Month)					

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Oct. 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	
Openings Received	
Information Not Available	

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Oct. 1981	Sep. 1981	Oct. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	54.5	54.4	54.4
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.0	34.0	34.2
Construction	1.5	1.5	1.5
Trans. & public utilities	1.9	1.9	1.9
Wholesale & retail trade	11.3	11.6	11.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.8	2.8	2.7
Services & mining	9.4	9.4	9.3
Government	7.1	6.8	7.6

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Oct. 1981	Sep. 1981	Oct. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	20.5	20.4	20.2
Durable Goods - Total	3.7	3.6	3.4
Nondurable Goods Total	16.8	16.8	16.8
Textile Mill Products	4.4	4.6	4.5
Other nondurable goods	12.4	12.2	12.3

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS			
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	Information Not Available		

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

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Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

JOBLESS CREEP UP SLIGHTLY

The November unemployment rate for the Fall River Labor Market Area increased slightly over the month to 9.3 percent, 0.1 of a percentage point higher then the 9.2 percent rate posted in October but three full percentage points higher than the 6.3 percent rate posted in November 1980. An estimated 7,100 persons were unemployed in November compared to 7,000 a month earlier and 4,600 in November 1980. Of particular significance during November was the fact that new unemployment claims filed during the month registered at 6,829, a huge 52.1 percent increase over the 4,489 new claims filed during October. This substantial increase in new claims will largely continue to be reflected in future monthly unemployment rates and is accounted for by the overall declining national economy.

FALL RIVER KEY LOCATION FOR COAL STORAGE

The national drive for energy independence which emphasizes dramatically increased usage of American coal may have far-reaching and economically beneficial consequences for Fall River, if predictions contained in [illegible]cent report come to pass.

According to a 99 page analysis sponsored by the state's Executive Office of Energy Resources, Fall River can capitalize on native resources in the future bull market of coal and play a significant role in the return of large scale coal use in New England. Because of its prime location, Fall River is well-suited for coal shipping and storage, the report maintains. Situated on a main waterway and closer to mid-Atlantic shipping points than Boston, the city has potential as an unloading port for coal used in gasification mixture with oil, and coal wholesale as well as retail sales. That will mean more jobs, more tax revenue and increased development of shoreline areas, according to Steven Reckhow of Abington, author of the study funded by the state's Office of Coastal Zone Management with technical and logistical support from the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SPREDD).

The report maintains that present coal conversion at Brayton Point Station of New England Power Co. in Somerset will result in the transport of some two million tons of coal into Fall River's harbor annually. But while those shipments to NEPCO will have little direct impact on the city's port area, they may facilitate the acceptance of other coal facilities in Fall River, Reckhow believes. One of those coincidental developments could be E G & G Corporation's coal gasification plant in Fall River. Reckhow predicts that some 3.5 million tons of coal could pass through the city on its way to the E G & G site, proposed for some 4,500 acres in the extreme North End, if the plant is built. The coal would be unloaded at a shoreline docking area built to handle some 10,000 tons of coal a day, E G & G has predicted. Along with major users, many smaller, coal based industries could also develop in the Fall River area, given the right economic and environmental climate, Reckhow claims. Reckhow believes there are ten possible coal unloading and storage sites along the bay, with four of prime interest. If any of these sites develop as coal unloading areas, the report contends that millions of dollars will be invested in construction, with a variety of jobs made available to boost employment in both the short and long term. The report contends that the local job market will be improved by upwards of 350 permanent jobs from both NEPCO and E G & G if proposals are realized. That figure would increase if other coal related operations are established. During construction stages of both facilities, the area economy will benefit from more than 2,500 jobs, with about two-thirds of that total coming from the local work force.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
LABOR FORCE	76,700	76,600	73,400
Employment	69,600	69,600	68,800
Unemployment	7,100	7,000	4,600
Unemployment Rate 3/	9.3	9.2	6.3
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	1,250	879	763
Continued Weeks Claimed	2,576	1,922	2,134

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,187	2,286	345	61	2,062
New Applicants (This Month)	868	536	81	11	177

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Nov. 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	242
Openings Received	300

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	54.0	54.5	54.4
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.3	34.0	34.4
Construction	1.4	1.5	1.5
Trans. & public utilities	1.9	1.9	1.9
Wholesale & retail trade	11.5	11.3	11.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.8	2.8	2.7
Services & mining	9.5	9.4	9.3
Government	7.2	7.1	7.8

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	19.7	20.5	20.0
Durable Goods - Total	3.6	3.7	3.4
Nondurable Goods Total	16.1	16.8	16.6
Textile Mill Products	4.1	4.4	4.5
Other nondurable goods	12.0	12.4	12.1

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$210.90	$215.18	$190.81
Average Weekly Hours	36.3	37.1	35.8
Average Hourly Earnings	$5.81	$5.80	$5.33

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Dignton, Fall River, Somerset, Swansea, Westport, Little Compton, & Tiverton, Rhode Island.

FALL RIVER LMA

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Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

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Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-3469

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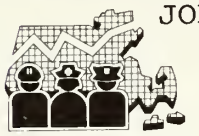
Massachusetts Profiles

Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



JOBLESS FIGURE CLIMBING

The December unemployment rate for the Fall River Labor Market Area rose sharply over the month to 9.9 percent, 0.6 of a percentage point higher than the 9.3 percent rate posted in November, but a huge 3.4 percentage points higher than the 6.5 percent rate posted in December 1980. An estimated 7,500 persons were unemployed in December compared to 7,100 a month earlier but 2,700 persons higher than the estimated unemployed of 4,800 in December 1980. 7,730 new unemployment insurance claims were filed during December, an increase of 901 or 13.2 percent higher than the 6,829 initial claims filed during November.

FACTORY OUTLET MALL PROPOSED

It was recently announced by city officials that the city intends to file an application for a federal grant of $266,000 which will ultimately lead to a $1.6 million factory outlet mall in the Barnard Mill complex on Quarry St. The total cost of the project is set at $1.6 million by its developers, Tower Mill Joint Venture, a limited partnership between W. Fall River Associates and Stafford Garment Associates, which owns the nearly vacant mill complex. Between 15 to 20 apparel outlet shops would be developed on the ground floor by rehabilitating one of the two present mill structures on the site by using about 110,000 square feet of space. Planned use of the upper floors has not been finalized. It was indicated, however, that those areas could be used to house industry, offices, research and development facilities, or expanded commercial space. The total expected cost of the project is $1.6 million and approximately $1.35 million has already been committed by the private sector. The remaining $266,000 is expected to be realized from the UDAG grant and then loaned to the developers, with control of the grant funds held by Jobs for Fall River, Inc.

Barnard Mill is located in an industrial and retail area known as the "Heart of the Factory Outlet District". The project is estimated to create 100 new permanent jobs and 85 temporary construction jobs. The project is also expected to increase local and state tax revenues by about $75,000 annually including property taxes, sales taxes, and income taxes for the new employees.

The December issue of Massachusetts Profiles for the Fall River LMA is the last regular issue. Due to severe cuts in federal funds, the Division of Employment Security regretfully announces that it must terminate the following publications: Massachusetts Cities and Towns, Massachusetts Trends, Massachusetts Labor Turnover in Manufacturing, and Massachusetts Profiles for each of the 10 major labor market areas in the state.

The statistical data contained in these publications will be available in the Job Market Research library on the second floor of the Hurley Building. Some of the statistical information contained in these publications will be available during 1982 in a revised Massachusetts Employment Review publication. If you would like to be put on this mailing list, please write to the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security, Job Market Research Publications, Charles F. Hurley Building, Government Center, Boston, MA 02114. Be sure to include your complete address and zip code. The information you provide us will be fed into our new computer program which will enable us to deliver information more efficiently. If you know of others who would like to be on our new mailing list, please have them send us their addresses.

If any additional funding becomes available during the year, we will add to our list of publications on a selective basis. Your comments on the value of and uses for the publications you have been receiving would help us to focus our decisions.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
LABOR FORCE	75,600	76,700	74,100
Employment	68,100	69,600	69,300
Unemployment	7,500	7,100	4,800
Unemployment Rate 3/	9.9	9.3	6.5
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	1,241	1,250	1,567
Continued Weeks Claimed	3,188	2,576	2,389

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	I N A				
New Applicants ..... (This Month)					

JOB OPENINGS 1/	
Unfilled Openings 2/	I N A
Openings Received	

1/ Available During the Month
1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.7	54.0	54.6
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.3	34.3	34.5
Construction	1.3	1.4	1.4
Trans. & public utilities	2.1	1.9	1.9
Wholesale & retail trade	11.6	11.5	11.3
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.8	2.8	2.7
Services & mining	9.5	9.5	9.3
Government	7.0	7.2	7.9

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	19.4	19.7	20.1
Durable Goods - Total	3.5	3.6	3.4
Nondurable Goods Total	15.9	16.1	16.7
Textile Mill Products	4.0	4.1	4.5
Other nondurable goods	11.9	12.0	12.2

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$209.16	$210.90	$201.70
Average Weekly Hours	36.0	36.3	37.7
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 5.81	$ 5.81	$ 5.35

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

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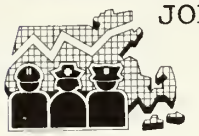
JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



BACK AGAIN

The newsletter for the Fall River Labor Market Area has been resurrected and put back into print on a calendar quarterly basis beginning with May, 1982. The newsletter will contain three momths data to include labor force information, number of claimants, characteristics of applicants, job openings, wage and salary employment by place of work and average hours and earnings of production workers in manufacturing. The same system will apply for the New Bedford Labor Market Area and the Brockton Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area on alternating months.

THE BIG PICTURE

The rate of unemployment for the Fall River L.M.A. was 12.0 percent for March, 11.6 percent for April and 12.3 for May. The number unemployed varied in direct relation with the rate. There were 9096 people unemployed in March, 8638 in April and 9307 in May. This up and down movement of the unemployment is a reflection of the economy itself. As we move from winter to summer, the economy picks up speed. Construction jobs, seasonal manufacturing, tourism employment all start to increase in the spring and lowers the unemployment rate as the normal economy kicks in. This has been the historical trend. This year is different. There is a very serious national recession presently. The national rates of unemployment are the highest since post World War II, and if the economy does not pick up soon, this recession could be second only to 1930. In our local economy we are in relatively good shape. The national recession is centered in the highly populated, middle-America, automobile manufacturing states. The goods and services that are generated here are not selling nation wide. This is driving up our unemployment rates. The normal economic forces are working; however, its the national recession which keeps our unemployment rates high.

FALL RIVER & THE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

For some time now Fall River and New Bedford, have had the highest rates of unemployment in the state. For those of us who worry about such things it tends to make us suspicious that this is always this way. "High" rates of unemployment conjur images of deep depression and abject proverty. This is not true of Fall River and New Bedford. These cities have a high percentage of manufacturing employment to total employment (Fall River 44% and New Bedford 47%), and their firms tend to be labor intensive with a high turnover. Turnover is defined as the amount of separation and accessions in relation to total employment. High turnover drives up the unemployment rate. In the case of Fall River and New Bedford higher unemployment is one worker laid-off three times a year for short periods only to be rehired as opposed to a worker laid-off for nine months with no hope of recall or employment. It makes a difference.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

A new publication entitled Trade Adjustment Act: Impact on the Massachusetts Economy is now available. This publication is a study of the Trade Adjustment Act of 1974 (TAA) and employment affected during the 5 year period, January 1975 through November 1981. Another new publication is Finance, Insurance and Real Estate Employment in Mass. 1971 - 1980. This publication contains information on the occupational composition of these industries, structural changes in these industries over the past 5 years and the effect upon employment, and detailed information on the Boston, Springfield, and Worcester Labor Market Areas.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	MAY 82	APRIL 82	MARCH 82
LABOR FORCE	75,700	74,300	75,600
Employment	66,400	65,700	66,500
Unemployment	9,300	8,600	9,100
Unemployment Rate 3/	12.6	11.6	12.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	953	934	1,148
Continued Weeks Claimed	4,098	4,771	5,198

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,122	1,600	529	298	1,160
New Applicants (This Month)	872	386	94	23	136

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	MAY 82
Unfilled Openings 2/	N/A
Openings Received	182

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	MAY 82	APRIL 82	MARCH 82
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.1	52.7	52.3
Nonmanufacturing - Total	33.7	33.3	32.9
Construction	1.2	1.1	0.9
Trans. & public utilities	1.8	1.8	1.8
Wholesale & retail trade	11.7	11.5	11.4
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.9	2.9	2.9
Services & mining	9.3	9.2	9.1
Government	6.8	6.8	6.8

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	May 82	APRIL 82	MARCH 82
Manufacturing - Total	19.4	19.4	19.4
Durable Goods - Total	-	-	-
Nondurable Goods Total	-	-	-
Textile Mill Products	4.2	4.1	4.0
Other nondurable goods	-	-	-

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	MAY 82	APRIL 82	MARCH 82
Average Weekly Earnings	$204.26	$207.68	$211.48
Average Weekly Hours	35.4	35.5	36.4
Average Hourly Earnings	5.77	5.85	5.81

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

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Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

LOCAL ECONOMY IMPROVING

The rate of unemployment fell to a level of 8.9 percent for the month of November. This is down one full percentage point from October and down 5.1 percentage points from July. Since July the number of people employed has risen by 4,691 or 7.3 percent, while the number of people unemployed has fallen by 3,711 or 55.1 percent.

To say that the recession has ended would be premature, especially with the months of December, January and February ahead. These months, particularly the latter two, are not good months for employment; however, the trend has been set. Economist assume growth in the spring, and as long as interest rates do not rise dramatically, then we should see growth.

Manufacturing employment is heavily concentrated in nondurable goods, specifically textilesand apparel. What used to be a weakness in the past is now a strength. The national recession is focusing on durable goods (automobile industry). This sector of the economy will be the last to recover from the recession while the nondurables have already begun to recover.

BIG MAMIE - BIG TICKET

As you approach Fall River from the west on Route 195 or from the north on Route 79 one of the more spectacular sights is Battleship Cove. The center of attraction is the battleship U.S.S. Massachusetts. Nicknamed "Big Mamie", she won 11 battle stars, participated in 35 campaigns and steamed over 225,000 miles, all without the loss of a single man in battle, a remarkable achievement.

Tourism is very emotional. It is not known how many people are attracted to Battleship Cove because of its location yet a report published by the Bristol County Development Council said that in 1980 the cove generated 3.5 million dollars in economic activity. This would make it, by far, the main attraction in Bristol County.

This fact has not been lost to local officials. Heritage Park, a concept begun by the Battleship Massachusetts Memorial Committee, is now in its first phase of construction. The initial building will be a massive visitors center, a boathouse,boardwalk, footbridge, landscaping and parking facilities. The second pahse will include a 100-slip marina. Often-times incentives like Heritage Park will produce economic spin-offs that keep on multiplying.

E.G.G. ROLLS ON

As time progresses, the concept of the New England Energy Park comes closer to reality. For many years, the city of Fall River has been restricted in its growth. With the Taunton River on the west, Watuppa Pond on the east and the Rhode Island border to the south, the city has been physically bound. The New England Energy Park would be the incentive to develop areas of economic development. The effects of this development would last for generations.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - MAILING LIST UPDATE

Massachusetts Profiles are available for ten major labor markets in Massachusetts: Boston SMSA, Brockton, Fall River, Fitchburg-Leominster, Lawrence-Haverhill, Lowell, New Bedford, Pittsfield, Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke, and Worcester. They are designed for people who want current regional labor market information for public policy or business decisions. If you wish to continue to receive Massachusetts Profiles after the end of the calendar year, please specify the Region(s) for which you wish to receive copies by writing to:

Publications Staff
Massachusetts Division of Employment Securit
Job Market Research
C.F. Hurley Building
Government Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Nov. 1982	Oct. 1982	Sept. 1982
LABOR FORCE	75,398	75,835	77,514
Employment	68,661	68,346	69,853
Unemployment	6,737	7,489	7,661
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.9	9.9	9.8
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	818	843	863
Continued Weeks Claimed	3,744	3,552	3,295

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	3480	1462	498	43	--
New Applicants (This Month)	1092	490	138	13	--

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Nov. 1982
Unfilled Openings 2/	NA
Openings Received	245

1/ Available During the Month
1/ At End of Period
2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1982	Oct. 1982	Sept. 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	52.9	53.0	53.6
Nonmanufacturing - Total	33.8	33.7	34.0
Construction	1.2	1.3	1.3
Trans. & public utilities	1.9	1.9	1.9
Wholesale & retail trade	12.0	11.9	12.0
Finance, ins. & real estate	3.1	3.0	3.0
Services & mining	9.5	9.5	9.9
Government	6.1	6.1	5.9

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1982	Oct. 1982	Sept. 1982
Manufacturing - Total	19.1	19.3	19.6
Durable Goods - Total	7.5	3.4	3.7
Nondurable Goods Total	11.7	15.9	15.9
Textile Mill Products	4.4	4.3	4.3
Other nonduraole goods	7.3	11.6	11.6

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Nov. 1982	Oct. 1982	Sept. 1982
Average Weekly Earnings	$196.71	$209.68	$210.02
Average Weekly Hours	32.3	34.6	35.9
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 6.09	$ 6.06	$ 5.85

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

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Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

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THE RATES ARE UP BUT SO IS THE ECONOMY

The rate of unemployment rose to a level of 13.4 percent in February and 13.5 percent in January, up from the December rate of 11.0 percent. It's hard to imagine that the recession is receding yet there several reasons that indicate a further decline. First of all the number of claimants has been dropping significantly as the tables on this page shows. Secondly, the winter months of January,February and March are always the worst months of employment. We are now in the bottoming out of the recession and the economy should improve from her. Improvement will be slow in coming. The economy has been seriously hurt. The heart of the nation's manufacturing durable goods, has been temporarily lost. Fortunately, Fall River's non-durables goods manufacturing was not as severely hurt. Still the national economy must become healthier for the general economy to improve.and that will take time.

Finally, interest rates have truly fallen. They may still be high, but the demand is high. This has led to a spurt of housing construction in sections of Southeastern Massachusetts. This probably more than anything else will get the economy going again. Taken as a whole, the construction industry is one of the largest employers for any industry. Besides the obvious jobs of carpenters and painters, there are furniture, carpets, draperies, plumbing fixtures not to mention the public utilities and the roads and sewage. The list could go on and on. The negative side is that interest rates are expected to go back up in the summer. When it happens, or if it happens, remains to be seen.

SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS

The Fall River/Taunton/Attleboro Service Delivery Area XV has been announced and consist of the following cities and towns: Attleboro, Berkley, Dighton, Fall River, Mansfield, North Attleboro, Norton, Raynham, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Somerset, Swansea, Taunton and Westport. The SDA is serviced by three Job Matching Service Centers. One is located in Fall River at 162 Pleasant Street, another in Taunton at 21 Spring Street and the third in Attleboro at 67 Mechanic Street. The annual average labor force for SDA XV for 1982 was 146,329, employment was 130,610 and unemployment was 15,719.

BLS NEWS RELEASE, ELECTRONICALLY

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has inaugurated an electronic news release service that permits persons interested in the Bureau's national economic indicators to gain access directly from the computer in which they are stored.

Cost of the electronic news releases, which can be transmitted over telephone lines to computer terminals and other access devices anywhere in the world, ranges from $5 to $15 per release, plus the cost of the telephone call. National BLS releases available on-line, immediately upon official release of the data to the public include: Employment Situation; Commissioner's Statement before the Joint Economic Committee; Producer Price Indexes; State and Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment; Consumer Price Index; Real Earnings; Productivity and Costs; Employment Cost Index.

BLS will continue to make its releases available to the press in the conventional manner, But, news organizations and others now have the option of accessing the releases electronically. BLS also makes its data available in periodicals published by the Bureau and sold by the Government Printing Office: on computer tape, sold by by BLS; and in some instances, via Mailgram and in micro - form. Information about electronic news releases and about BLS data in other forms is available from the Office of Publications, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington D.C. 20212.

A recorded summary of principal CPI, PPI, and Employment Situation numbers is available 24 hours a day on (202) 523-9658.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Feb. 1983	Jan. 1983	Dec. 1982
LABOR FORCE	72,871	74,842	76,147
Employment	63,091	64,716	67,805
Unemployment	9,780	10,126	8,342
Unemployment Rate 3/	13.4	13.5	11.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	600	971	1872
Continued Weeks Claimed	4729	4947	5111

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	3371	1260	552	39	--
New Applicants (This Month)	759	336	70	58	--

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Feb. 1983
Unfilled Openings 2/	--
Openings Received	1286

1/ Available During the Month

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Feb. 1983	Jan. 1983	Dec. 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	49.6	49.8	52.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	31.8	31.7	33.7
Construction	1.2	1.2	1.1
Trans. & public utilities	1.6	1.6	1.9
Wholesale & retail trade	10.7	10.7	12.6
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.6	2.6	3.1
Services & mining	8.7	8.6	8.9
Government	7.0	7.0	6.1

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Feb. 1983	Jan.1983	Dec. 1982
Manufacturing - Total	17.8	18.1	18.8
Durable Goods - Total	xx	xx	xx
Nondurable Goods Total	xx	xx	xx
Textile Mill Products	xx	xx	xx
Other nondurable goods	xx	xx	xx

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Feb. 1983	Jan. 1983	Dec. 1982
Average Weekly Earnings	$205.22	$212.44	$219.37
Average Weekly Hours	33.1	34.6	36.2
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 6.20	$ 6.14	$ 6.06

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Dighton, Fall River, Somerset, Swansea, Westport, Little Compton, & Tiverton, Rhode Island.

FALL RIVER LMA

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Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Kristin S. Demong, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

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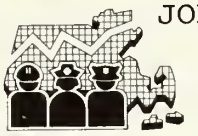
Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



EMPLOYMENT MAKES SIGNIFICANT GAINS

The rate of unemployment plunged by almost 4 percentage points from March to May. This is probably the quickest decline ever in the Fall River LMA unemployment rates due to economic activity. The labor force figures are indicative of the situation, for while employment rose by 3,700 jobs or 6 percent, unemployment fell by 2c percent or 1,700 persons. The recovery is at full steam at this point in time. The gains in employment happened quicker than anticipated. This was due, in a large part, to what is referred to as "pent up" demand. We must remember that we are coming out of the worst national recession since 1930. For the past two years, the growth economy was put on hold until the recession had worn itself off. The early signs of a recovery began in July of 1982 and continued right into 1983. In January the recession peaked and interest rates, which had been falling were then attractive to investors. The surge in investment was especially noticed in the home construction industry, exactly where you would expect it. Investment since then has leveled off and we can expect the economy to do likewise.

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

The new listings of eligible labor surplus areas has been posted. The cities and towns in our area are as follows: Acushnet, Berkley, Blackstone, Bourne, Brockton, Carver, Dighton, Edgartown, Fall River, Falmouth, Freetown, Harwich, Kingston, Lakeville, Mashpee, Millville, New Bedford, Orleans, Provincetown, Rochester, Sandwich, Taunton, Wareham, Wellfleet, and Westport. If there is an employer who feels their area should be a labor surplus area please contact this office.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR MEN INCREASES

A recent news release from the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that for the State, New England and the Nation the rate of unemployment was higher for men than for women. This for the first time since the program began in 1976. For the State the rate of unemployment for men was 8.3 percent and 7.- percent for women.

COMPARISON OF THE UNEMPLOYED FROM THE CENSUS AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE DATA

The 1980 Census estimated that 135,310 individuals were unemployed in Massachusetts. Active job seekers not working who were registered with the Employment Service in March 1980 numbered 114,200 84.4 percent of the individuals identified by the Census. Within the Boston SMSA, the 1980 Census estimated the number of unemployed individuals as of 81,261. The Employment Service Automated Reporting System (ESARS) recorded 68,302 unemployed individuals registered with the employment service as of March 31, 1980. This represents [illegible] percent of the unemployed individuals within the Boston SMSA enumerated by the census. Within the Balance of Massachusetts, 74,049 individuals were identified by the Census as unemployed. ESARS data indicates that in March 1980, active DES job seekers not working within the Balance of Massachusetts numbered 62,207.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Job Market Research Service of Massachusetts, Division of Employment Security is pleased to announce the release of a new publication, Industrial Profile: Massachusetts and Labor Market Areas. This report identifies areas of the State with sizeable concentration of employment for each important industry in the state. It also reviews the relative importance of an industry within an area. This facilitates an understanding of the state's diverse and changing industrial structure. In addition, it highlights industries and areas which may be particularly sensitive to economic change.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR May 1983	April 1983	March 1983
LABOR FORCE	72.9	71.9	71.9
Employment	65.9	64.1	62.2
Unemployment	7.0	7.8	9.7
Unemployment Rate 3/	9.6	10.8	13.5
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	675	798	832
Continued Weeks Claimed	2844	3511	4263

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
[illegible]	3007	1251	586	144	NA
[illegible]	760	379	61	13	NA

JOB OPENINGS	May 1983
Unfilled Openings 2/	NA
Openings Received	260

1/ [illegible] During the Month
2/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	May 1983	April 1983	March 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	51.5	51.0	50.1
Nonmanufacturing - Total	33.0	32.6	32.0
Construction	1.9	1.7	1.3
Trans. & public utilities	1.7	1.6	1.6
Wholesale & retail trade	11.0	10.9	10.7
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.6	2.6	2.6
Services & mining	8.9	8.8	8.8
Government	6.9	7.0	7.0

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	May 1983	April 1983	March 1983
Manufacturing - Total	18.5	18.4	18.1
Durable Goods - Total	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nondurable Goods Total	0.0	0.0	0.0
Textile Mill Products	4.3	4.3	4.2
Other nondurable goods	0.0	0.0	0.0

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	May 1983	April 1983	March 1983
Average Weekly Earnings	$227.92	$227.55	$221.79
Average Weekly Hours	37.0	37.0	35.6
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 6.16	$ 6.15	$ 6.23

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

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FALL RIVER LMA

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Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

THE RECOVERY CONTINUES

The rate of unemployment fell for the third consecutive month to a November level of 8.4 percent. This is the lowest rate of unemployment of the year to date and gives us an eleven month average of 10.7 percent. In 1982 the annual average for the labor market area was 11.5 percent. Employment by place of residence appears to be a problem. In 1982 the annual average employed was 67,871 while in 1983 the eleven month average was 65,950. This problem exists not only in Fall River but nationally as well. After back-to-back recessions in 1980 and 1982, it is not unusual to assume that people have dropped out of the labor force. Hopefully, as we see the economy prosper in 1984, the number of employed will increase.

The recovery is much stronger than anticipated, and although November is a good month for employment in the Fall River area, this month was particularly strong. Retail trade was very active this Christmas season. This activity is not limited to part-time sales help. Eating and drinking places do well this time of year, as well as food stores and freight carriers. The spinoffs from the Christmas season are many.

NEW LABOR MARKET SURPLUS AREAS

In an attempt to stimulate local economic development and strengthen our nation's industrial base, Congress has established a program which will provide new opportunities for firms in areas where the unemployment rate is very high.

The current list is effective October 1, 1983 and runs through September 30, 1984. The cities and towns qualifying in Southeastern Massachusetts are Berkley, Eastham Fall River, Falmouth, Hanson, Harwich, Hull, Marion, New Bedford, Oak Bluffs, Provincetown, Taunton, Wareham, Wellfleet, Westport. If there is an employer thow feels their area should be a labor suplus area due to unforeseen economic development, please contact the Division of Employment Security, as they are the qualifying agency.

NEW DES PUBLICATION-"OCCUPATIONS IN TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS, AND UTILITIES 1982"

The Occupational Employment Statistics Program is a part of a Federal State cooperative program involving State Employment Security Agencies (SESA's) as well as the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). It was designed to meet the needs of economists, employment specialists, educators, counselors and others for current data on employment by occupations as well as projected data on employment by occupation and industry. This publication presents the results and analysis of the eighteenth occupational survey of Massachusetts industries. Data covering these divisions of the non-manufacturing sector appeared in 3 prior publications: 1973, 1976 and 1979. Each industry is surveyed tri-annually. Detailed occupational staffing patterns are presented for 12 two digit and 50 three digit industries.

Despite adverse economic conditions within some segments of the retail trade sector, overall employment increased by more than 2 percent between 1979 and 1982. The largest single percentage decrease in this sector was the nearly 8 percent loss among auto dealers and gasoline stations. Wholesale trade industries registered a 4 percent growth rate over this same period. The transportation, communications and utilities industries experienced a minor employment loss over the 3 year period. The largest decline was recorded in motor freight trasnportation and warehousing. Occupational staffing patterns have changed considerably within many industries. These changes reflect the continued growth in automation, new product development, and the strengthening of sales staffs.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Nov. 1983	Oct. 1983	Sept. 1983
LABOR FORCE	75.4	75.0	74.5
Employment	69.1	68.0	67.0
Unemployment	6.3	7.0	7.5
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.4	9.3	10.1
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	646	446	421
Continued Weeks Claimed	2381	2190	2130

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	4231	1642	930	363	--
New Applicants (This Month)	1092	490	138	13	--

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Nov. 1983
Openings Received	641

1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1983	Oct. 1983	Sept. 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	52.5	52.3	51.8
Nonmanufacturing - Total	32.5	32.4	32.2
Construction	2.1	2.1	2.1
Trans. & public utilities	1.6	1.7	1.6
Wholesale & retail trade	10.7	10.5	10.8
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.7	2.6	2.6
Services & mining	8.7	8.8	8.9
Government	6.7	6.7	6.2

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1983	Oct. 1983	Sept. 1983
Manufacturing - Total	20.0	19.9	19.6
Durable Goods - Total	xx	xx	xx
Nondurable Goods Total	xx	xx	xx
Textile Mill Products	4.4	4.4	4.5
Other nondurable goods	xx	xx	xx

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Nov. 1983	Oct. 1983	Sept. 1983
Average Weekly Earnings	$241.47	$250.03	$250.04
Average Weekly Hours	35.2	36.5	37.6
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 6.86	$ 6.85	$ 6.65

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

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JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

FALL RIVER SMSA'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DECREASE

The rate of unemployment declined during the month of February after rising through the months of December 1983 and January 1984. It is unusual to have the rate decline by more than one percentage point during February. Last year the rate decreased slightly from January's 12.8 to February's 12.5 percent. In 1982, the rate increased from 11.8 to 12.4 percent while in 1981 it remained at 8.7 for both months.

The difference this year was due to the amount of people unemployed falling by 15.2 percent from January to February. This was supported by a 12.4 percent decrease in continued claims filed at local Division of Employment Security offices.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT FOLLOWS SEASONAL TRENDS

Nonfarm employment followed its seasonal trend by decreasing from December to January and remaining stable from January to February. The decreases in January were attributable to declines in trade and construction employment, while February's stability was due to small employment increase in transportation and public utilities offsetting a small decrease in wholesale and retail trade.

TRAVEL TO WORK DATA AVAILABLE

The 1980 census has provided an abundance of information including where people live and where people work. As might be imagined, 70.9 percent of the Fall River labor force live and work within the city. Seventy-five percent live in the city and work in the labor market area, and 81.6 percent work in Bristol County. Travel by the rest of the city's labor force tends to be extensive and varied, for example to: Plymouth County, 415 workers; Norfolk County, 683 workers; Middlesex County, 210 workers; and Suffolk County, 209 workers. Of the Fall River labor force, 6.7 percent (2500) travel to Rhode Island. The greatest number of interstate commuters were 1,101 to Providence County and 914 to Newport County. Finally, the cities of Southeastern Massachusetts had the following number of Fall River workers: New Bedford, 632; Taunton, 527; Attleboro, 265; and Brockton, 153.

PLANNING PUBLICATIONS

The Job Market Research section of the Division of Employment Security has published a series of reports with planning data for the Service Delivery Areas of Massachusetts for the purpose of implementing the Job Training Partnership Act for Planning Year 1984. The report entitled "Planning Data" Southeastern Massachusetts and Associated SDA's PY 1984" provides data for the Bristol SDA and it's 14 cities and towns, including the Fall River and Taunton LMA's and the Massachusetts Portion of the Providence/Warwick/Pawtucket LMA.

NEW REPORT AVAILABLE

The Massachusetts Division of Employment Security has announced the release of a new publication, Distribution of Establishments and Employment by Size Groups. The report based of first quarter reports from the 99 percent of Massachusetts employers who are covered by the Massachusetts Employment Security Law, is the most accurate measure of employment by industry and size of employer. The report is produced annually and places all covered employees (size class 1) to over 1,000 (by size class 9) by two digit Standard Industrial Classification codes.

Copies can be obtained by writing to the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security, Job Market Research Publications, C. F. Hurley Building, Goverment Center, Boston, MA 02114

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Feb. 1984	Jan. 1984	Dec. 1983
LABOR FORCE	78,140	80,396	75,149
Employment	70,650	71,564	67,614
Unemployment	7,490	8,832	7,535
Unemployment Rate 3/	9.6	11.0	10.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	573	582	1,470
Continued Weeks Claimed	3,254	3,658	3,489

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	2,218	814	426	38	236
New Applicants (This Month)	690	264	85	13	90

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	
Unfilled Openings 2/	
Openings Received	337

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Feb. 1984	Jan. 1984	Dec. 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	54.7	54.7	55.8
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.7	34.7	35.8
Construction	1.1	1.1	1.5
Trans. & Public utilities	2.0	1.9	1.8
Wholesale & retail trade	12.4	12.5	13.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.9	2.9	2.9
Services & mining	9.9	9.9	9.9
Government	6.4	6.4	6.5

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Feb. 1984	Jan. 1984	Dec. 1983
Manufacturing - Total	20.0	20.0	19.0
Durable Goods - Total	xx	xx	xx
Nondurable Goods - Total	xx	xx	xx
Textile Mill Products	4.6	4.6	4.6
Other nondurable goods	xx	xx	xx

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Feb. 1984	Jan. 1984	Dec. 1983
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	INA	$244.12
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	36.6
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	$6.67

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

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Marlene Seltzer, Director of Research and Policy
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JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

THE RECOVERY CONTINUES

The above headline was the same headline used in Fall River LMA Profile of November 1983. At that time the rate of unemployment was 8.4 percent, the lowest it had been all year. Back then, there was surprise at the strength of the recovery and the hope for a prosperous economy in 1984. At present, the May rate of unemployment has fallen to a level of 6.0 percent and the recovery still continues. This is the lowest the rate has been since November of 1980 when the rate was 5.9 percent. The lowest in recent history was during August 1979 when the rate fell to a level of 5.4 percent. With the present economy that record could be broken this year. The highest the rate has been in 1984 was during January when it rose to a level of 11.0 percent when the number of people unemployed was over 8,800. By May that level had fallen to 4,500, a substantial decrease.

AMOUNT OF CLAIMANTS DECREASE

As the economy continues to improve the amount of people claiming benefits continues to fall. While initial claims have been erratic, continued claims have decreased 1,374 people or 37.6 percent of the total from January to May. With the economy as strong as it is the amount of claimants should continue to decrease through the fall months. Historically the months of August, October and November usually have the lowest rates of unemployment.

EMPLOYMENT INCREASES

Agricultural employment has had steady increases in employment and the past three months from March to May employment increased by 1,300 jobs. While manufacturing has varied it was the nonmanufacturing sector that was responsible for the total increase in jobs. Leading the way was the construction industry which grew by 800 jobs. The trade industry also rebounded, as it grew by 400 after the seasonal declines of the winter months. While services and government were up in employment by 200 jobs each, finance, insurance and real estate remained static and transportation, communications and public utilities posted a slight decrease.

WHERE PEOPLE WORK AND WHERE THEY RESIDE

In the last issue of the Fall River Profile we reported where people live and where they work. In this issue we shall look at where people work and where they live.

According to the 1980 Census there were 41,344 employed in the city of Fall River, of this amount 26,435 lived in Fall River (63.9 percent). Residents of Somerset were next with 3,367 people or 50 percent of its labor force. Others cities and towns having a sizeable number of residents employed within Fall River were: Westport with 2,625 workers; Swansea with 2,075; Freetown, 580; New Bedford, 456; Taunton 181 and Seekonk with 111. Almost 90 percent of Fall River's workers were from Bristol County. Newport County had 3,090 working in Fall River out of 3,812 Rhode Island residents that worked in Fall River.

OCCUPATIONAL WAGES

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has published a wage report on similar occupations for 23 different sections of the country including Southeast Mass. The average straight-time hourly earnings for certain occupations were: Secretaries, $6.57; Typists, $4.86;file clerks, $4.37;key entry operators,$4.94; Computer Operators, $7.19;Drafters,$7.56; Electronic Technicians, $9.26; Maintenance Carpenters,$7.84; Maintenance Mechanics,(machinery), $8.29; Tool and Die Makers,$8.61; Truck Drivers, $9.98;Shipping Packers, $4.99; Forklift Operators, $7.21; Guards, $3.82; and Janitors, $5.60. When using this data, one must keep in mind that these are wages of people on the job as opposed to starting wages.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	May 1984	April 1984	March 1984
LABOR FORCE	76.8	78.2	77.7
Employment	72.3	72.4	70.5
Unemployment	4.5	5.8	7.2
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.0	7.5	9.3
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	521	606	449
Continued Weeks Claimed	2711	2988	3268

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	2150	846	278	50	220
New Applicants (This Month)	637	319	19	16	74

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	May 1984
Unfilled Openings 2/	
Openings Received	417

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	May 1984	April 1984	March 1984
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	55.9	55.8	54.6
Nonmanufacturing - Total	36.5	36.1	35.0
Construction	2.0	1.7	1.2
Trans. & public utilities	1.9	2.0	2.0
Wholesale & retail trade	12.9	12.7	12.5
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.9	2.9	2.9
Services & mining	10.2	10.2	10.0
Government	6.6	6.6	6.4

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	May 1984	April 1984	March 1984
Manufacturing - Total	19.4	19.7	19.6
Durable Goods - Total	xx	xx	xx
Nondurable Goods Total	xx	xx	xx
Textile Mill Products	4.5	4.5	4.5
Other nondurable goods	xx	xx	xx

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	May 1984	April 1984	March 1984
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	$251.54	$252.15
Average Weekly Hours	INA	37.1	37.3
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	$ 6.78	$ 6.76

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor disoute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Dighton, Fall River, Somerset, Swansea, Westport, Little Compton, & Tiverton, Rhode Island.

FALL RIVER LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

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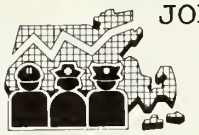
Fall River LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



UNEMPLOYMENT FALLS

The rate of unemployment fell from July to August by four-tenths of a percentage point; yet, it is higher than the June rate of 6.4 percent. However, it is 1.2 percentage points below last year's August rate of 7.8 percent.

The number of people employed, and who live in the labor market area, increased by 1,400 from July to August; whereas, the number unemployed fell by 300 for an overall decrease in the rate of unemployment. From June to August, the number of individuals unemployed increased by 200 and the employed count decreased by 700.

EXPECTED SEASONAL DECLINE IN UNEMPLOYMENT

For the rate to fall from July to August is typical for the Fall River LMA. For the past three years, the rate fell for the LMA. In 1983, the unemployment rate fell by 1.6 percentage points; in 1982 it dropped by 3.5 percentage points and in 1981 it decreased nine-tenths of a percentage point.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

The highest level of employment during the three month period was during June when nonfarm employment reached 56,500. During the month of July, total employment fell by 2,500 jobs with manufacturing leading the drop with a decrease of 1,500 employed. July is the month when factories usually shut down for vacations and maintenance. Also during July, government employment decreased by 800 positions mostly due to school shutdowns. The trade industry decreased by 400 jobs.

From July to August employment picked up by 1,900 jobs. Manufacturing rebounded by gaining back July's job loss. Nonmanufacturing also regained 400 of the jobs it had lost in July. During this three month period, the service sector expanded them most. From June to August this industry division grew by 700 jobs.

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

Beginning October 1, 1984 through September 30, 1985, the following areas have been classified as labor surplus areas in Southeastern Massachusetts . They are: Berkley, Dighton, Eastham, Fall River, Falmouth, Hanson, Harwich, Hull, Marion, Millville, New Bedford, Provincetown, Taunton, Truro, Wareham, Wellfleet and Westport. These communities accounted for one-fourth of the 68 Massachusetts cities and towns certified as eligible for federal procurement preference. Employers in labor surplus areas can receive preference in bidding on federal contracts. During periods of high national unemployment, an area is classified as a labor surplus area if its unemployment rate during the previous two calendar years was 10 percent or more. The purpose in providing preference in bidding on federal contracts to labor surplus areas is to help direct the government's procurement dollars into areas where people are in the most severe economic need, i.e. areas with the highest rates of unemployment. The government purchases goods ranging from fish and cranberries to oceangraphic instruments.

NEW RESEARCH PUBLICATION

Projected employment changes from 1980 to 1990 for Southeastern Massachusetts are being introduced in a new Research publication entitled "Southeastern Massachusetts Projected Changes 1980 to 1990". Industry and occupational employment are projected in this report in the same format as our statewide projections.

Our publications may be received free of charge by writing to:

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
Research Publications
Research Department - 2nd floor
C. F. Hurley Building
Government Center
Boston, MA 02114

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Aug. 1984	July 1984	June 1984
LABOR FORCE	79.1	78.0	78.2
Employment	73.9	72.5	73.2
Unemployment	5.2	5.5	5.0
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.6	7.0	6.4
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	558	722	452
Continued Weeks Claimed	2286	2866	2284

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	1924	930	157	27	181
New Applicants (This Month)	1397	712	56	30	537

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Aug. 1984
Openings Received	1566

1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Aug. 1984	July 1984	June 1984
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	55.9	54.0	56.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	36.3	35.9	36.9
Construction	2.0	2.1	2.1
Trans. & public utilities	2.1	2.0	2.1
Wholesale & retail trade	12.7	12.6	13.0
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.9	2.9	2.9
Services & mining	10.9	10.5	10.2
Government	5.7	5.8	6.6

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Aug. 1984	July 1984	June 1984
Manufacturing - Total	19.6	18.1	19.6
Textile Mill Products	4.3	4.3	4.5

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Aug. 1984	July 1984	June 1984
Average Weekly Earnings	$258.14	$241.37	$249.24
Average Weekly Hours	38.3	35.6	37.2
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 6.74	$ 6.78	$ 6.70

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

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